

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

February 24, 2022 “The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places.” Issue CI.9

A WELCOME ADMISSION: ENROLLMENTS UP

DANIEL NIVENS '24
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Office of Admissions is shaking up the process this year with new Admitted Students Days, scholarship competitions, and a reformed Garnet and Gray. Despite the smaller classes of 2024 and 2025, the Class of 2026 is expected to be much larger and much more in line with the College’s expectations for incoming class sizes. While Admissions could not share specific data on the number of deposited students and acceptances given thus far, both Vice President for Enrollment Jeff Norris and Dean of Admissions Jason Ferguson ‘96 are very optimistic and encouraged by the data thus far. Part of the new approach has been cementing the practice of holding Admitted Students Days earlier in the season. While Hampden-Sydney has hosted Spring Open Houses in previous years, Admissions is now holding

Admitted Students Days, which allow the College to sell itself to students who have been accepted but have not yet decided. The first of these days was held this past Saturday, February 19. Around 91% of the registered attendees actually came to the event, which is significantly higher than usual. Of the 62 students that attended, 54 students were undecided; within 36 hours of the event, 20% of that cohort had paid deposits to attend Sydney. In short, the event was a resounding success. Even among other schools of Hampden-Sydney’s type, a 20% commitment rate prior to a visit is unheard of. One parent at the event reported, “This is my third time visiting campus. Everytime I come, I learn something new. H-SC is very good at being very genuine and transparent.” Historically, 70% of those who visit campus decide to attend Sydney. Admissions is planning on hosting

Continue reading on page 2



TO THE POLLS! STUDENT CANDIDATES TAKE THE STAGE IN PUBLIC DEBATE

ANNUAL ELECTIONS FOR STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT, HONOR COURT CHAIRMAN, CAC CHAIRMAN TO BE HELD TODAY.

DRAKE KALINOWSKI '23
STAFF WRITER

The student body president debates took place on the fourth floor of Bortz Library this Wednesday, with Trey Grimes, Andrew Parker, and Dominic Pastore taking part in the debates. Student Body President Scott Pittman moderated the event, which consisted of a series of questions posed to the candidates about several factors of campus life. These questions included “What qualities and experience do you possess that make

you qualified to be Student Body President?” Grimes focused on his experiences as a resident advisor, specifically as head resident advisor. Parker focused on his experience within the student justice system of Hampden-Sydney and his engagement with the greater body of Hampden-Sydney. Pastore focused on his work with the KA fraternity and his work with the facilities department. The second question asked by the moderator involved the plans of the candidates to improve student and campus life. Grimes focused on giving a voice to

the students and listening to them, with some of his main talking points revolving around often discussed issues like parking shortages and potentially a student voice in administrative and faculty meetings. Parker focused on addressing several pressing issues from which the student body has heard little updates, including the COVID policy and the changes to campus wifi. Mostly, Parker seems to be asking for consistent communication from administration about policies, new areas being constructed on campus, and for an assembly of students to discuss problems that require student action to solve. Parker cited a passage from The Key on this issue that grants the student body president the ability to call student assemblies and appoint ad-hoc committees to solve issues. Pastore responded with a focus that he shares with The College: upping enrollment and retention rate of students, and therefore the size of fraternities on campus.

The second to last question involved the role of the student body president in the student court. Grimes emphasized the important role of the president in deciding between honor or probation and a trial, which could lead to expulsion from The College. In keeping with his theme of working with students and giving them a voice, he urged temperance when possible to work with potential offenders to develop them into better men. Parker, a veteran of the honor court, emphasized the necessity of experience when deciding which cases should go to trial, and which should not. Parker cautioned that someone who knows the

ins and outs of the student legal system is necessary in this position. Pastore, much like Grimes, mentioned empathy and temperance in the student courts. While Pastore does admit to being slightly daunted by what may be the most difficult responsibility of the position, he plans to learn and provide the best judgment he can in such a difficult situation. The final question posed by President Pittman was of the necessity for all executives to work together. Grimes began the final round of questioning by emphasizing the necessity for results coming from the other executives. His plan for working together seems to be results driven. Parker emphasized how important it is for executives to work together as well, but also talked about the necessity of executives to be approachable and dynamic, once more touting the student assembly option as a way to resolve the problems of the student body. Pastore talked about the relationships built at The College, citing the close bonds of brotherhood shared by the students to highlight how easy communication should be. Pastore also mentioned working with former students within the administration like Dean Pantele and Dean Bowyer to help accomplish the goals of the student body president. All of the candidates are qualified, and each bare his own distinct approach to the office of student body president on The Hill. Whoever wins, the future of Hampden-Sydney appears as bright as it has been since the penumbra of COVID swept the grounds of The College two years ago.

Continue reading on page 2

SWIPER NOT SWIPING: INSIDE THE KEY-CARD FIASCO AT THE GROVES

DANIEL MARSDEN '23
STAFF WRITER

Upon return to campus this spring, residents of the Groves housing units were greeted with an unexpected change. Tobias Konieczka ‘22, resident advisor of Poplar, explained his experience staring at the new black box on the door to his room: “I remember thinking ‘oh, it’s a card scanner. That’s cool I guess.’ I closed the door and pulled out my card, and nothing happened when I pressed it.” This was a universal experience for residents across the Groves. An electronic card-reader system was installed to all the interior door of the apartments in the Groves. The system was not activated, which would not be a problem save the fact that the doors can not be left unlocked. Once an interior door is closed, it automatically locks. For instance, if a resident wakes up in the middle of the night

to go to the bathroom and accidentally closes his door, he is locked out of his room. The room can be unlocked using a resident’s physical key, but the most common place for someone’s keys as he sleeps is in his room. This has led to a huge uptick in RAs unlocking their residents’ doors. Konieczka mentioned that he unlocked his residents’ doors at least a couple times a week, which was much higher than last semester when any unlocking was rare. Konieczka stated, “I need to keep my keys outside of my room, since if I lock my keys in my room, campus police has to come and unlock it.” Konieczka shared the sentiment of many when he explained “the biggest thing that irks me is the absolute lack of communication. RAs were not made aware that this was going to happen.” When asked about what the reason he thought that

the new system was installed, Konieczka supposed that it might be an incentive for students to not lose their key cards in the future, saying “this just feels like a way to get extra money... I want the school to tell us something, we pay a quarter of a million dollars over four years. It costs an extra \$500 to live in the Groves per semester, and they’re not telling us anything.” Bryson Smith ‘22, resident of Oak, shared this sentiment. “It seems to me that it’s an excuse to continue to get \$500 per semester. I don’t want to get conspiratorial, but why else would they do that without asking anybody.” Kevin Miller, Director of Facilities, and David Giles, employee of more than thirty years, sat down to tell the full story. Giles explained the impetus for switching to a completely keyless system saying “campus wants to go to card access, so you don’t have to worry about carry-

ing the key and for security reasons. If something happens, we can lock down or unlock the system. If someone loses a card, we can disable it versus a key, which would require changing the lock.” He also highlighted the major issues with the previous system that was used in the exterior doors of the Groves. “People’s names kept dropping; sometimes they wouldn’t work. So, we contracted with [Etech] to put in a more stable system on the exterior. So, while we were doing it, we wanted to do student rooms.” These issues were serious; Konieczka remarked that “the entire entry systems for the groves were very unreliable.” The process of installing an entire new lock system for the Groves doors, both interior and exterior, was slated for the summer of 2022, but Etech, the contractor, had an opening over

NEWS

COL. DWAYNE BOWYER NAMED ASSOCIATE DEAN OF STUDENTS

ZAC RICHMAN '22
SPORTS EDITOR

Recently, I interviewed Associate Dean Dwayne Bowyer. He is the new Associate Dean of Students for student conduct & character and director of Greek life. He’s a Hampden-Sydney man, class of 1992, former president of Kappa Alpha Order, an All-American quarterback and captain of the football team and was in the ROTC program.

Previously serving in the Army and working at the Pentagon, he comes back to us to provide much needed support for the Office of Student Affairs. In this interview, we talk quickly about his role at the college, his goals for Greek life, Superbowl Sunday, Leadership in the Wilson Program and a little more about Greek Life.

Associate Dean Bowyer encourages people to come get to know him, his office is on the third floor of the Brown Student Center in the Office of Student Affairs room 305, he can be reached by email dbowyer@hsc.edu and 910-797-8623 is the best number to reach him. I started this article by trying to annotate a 20 minute interview like this:

Zac Richman: Nice to meet you; tell me a little about yourself.

Dwayne Bowyer: Just happy to be back, really excited about taking on the roles and responsibilities of Associate Dean of Students, I get to oversee student conduct so everything dealing with the honor court and disciplinary stuff when it comes to student conduct, as well as focus on student character and leadership development.

Also I’m the director of Greek Life.

I chose to not include a full transcript of the interview. Bowyer has a lot to say, about his mindset and what he wants to bring to this beautiful college, so much so that the format I chose really just would take up about half the newspaper. That would certainly be an ego boost, but this college has taught me the benefits of writing concisely and attention spans can only last so long. Truthfully, the best way to learn about Bowyer is to just go talk to him. He’s a great Hampden-Sydney man and was in your shoes before.

From the start of our conversation, Bowyer stated that first and foremost his goals are to help students with academic success and to help students adjust to learning in person, something that we pride our institution on being able to carry out while so many others are unable to.

He wants to help develop men into future leaders of our nation. He mentions multiple times that he has a different and distinct background that he believes will aid him in tackling new problems from a different angle.

He says “You have to be available for when good things happen, when people are excited about “Hey, I got elected for student court” or “I did this tonight in an athletic event.” But you also have to be available when the not-so-great things happen and that’s what I want students to know is that I’m a resource. That if anytime they have issues, concerns, questions or just have some good news they want to share, they can certainly reach out to me. I’m just

a phone call, text, or email away.”

We talked in great detail about Greek life, the Circle, and recruitment. We talked about trash on the Circle, living conditions and presenting an image of Hampden-Sydney to the outside world. Some of the guys here feel like life on the circle has taken a disproportionate beating from the pandemic, affecting gatherings, how late we had bands on weekends, rules governing distancing, all while still living in the same dorms that don’t get the nice new upgrades the rest of the Circle gets.

We fought for water fountains. We fought for the ability to have guests on the weekends. We fought to get our houses cleaned and access to cleaning supplies when there was staffing difficulties. We fought most importantly to attract new students to the gifts that the Circle provides. We didn’t get the new Wi-Fi. We didn’t get Greek weeks. These fights and the things that we lost over the past few years have made Greek life feel like a target, rather than an important part of the school’s culture.

It feels like some people at this College truly have a disdain for men in Greek life. We have all heard stories about professors that go on rants about how awful fraternities are, or possibly experienced the embarrassment of walking past church-goers on a Sunday morning, dragging ourselves to breakfast.

He says “I got the opportunity to sit in the different faculty and staff meetings and I heard this discussion several times: ‘The members of the Greek life don’t care about the circle they don’t care

about their house, they don’t care what it looks like and the broken glass continues to be an issue.’”

Bowyer certainly has the best interests of the Circle in his heart, but it may seem difficult to us students to trust that the College is ready and willing to take an active role in improving the general conditions we live in. It can sometimes be difficult to care about a house where floors and stairways turn into dirty, sticky messes for weeks on end, where the power goes out and bricked up fireplaces ensure the chill stays, where toilet paper soap and paper towels don’t get replaced on a Friday before a busy weekend, and truly where it sometimes feels like living in a dorm. I am certainly grateful for the house I call my own, but it certainly pales in comparison to other schools’ Greek living facilities.

Many things have changed since Dean Bowyer was a student, athlete and Greek life member here. This is what Dean Bowyer believes will help him make impactful change in regards to Greek life. Seeing things with a new pair of eyes may be just the thing the circle needs to grow. He mentioned that 60% of the student body was involved in Greek life when he was a student. It would be a great thing if we could figure out how to get back to that number. Beginning with the idea that we do not care about our houses or the cleanliness of our surroundings, Bowyer believes changing that opinion of the circle starts with taking a little pride in our surroundings.

Throwing bottles, cans and cups off the back deck and in front

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

Founded 31 January 1920
by J. B. Wall '19

Editor-in-Chief
Michael Van Citters '22

Associate Editor
Daniel Nivens '24

News Editor
Benjamin Hager '23

Opinion Editor
Patrick Strite '24

Life Editor
Michael Harris '22

Sports Editor
Zachary Richman '22

Copy Editor
David Crego '23

Staff Photographer
Connor Hobarn '25

Cruciverbalist
John Torian '24

Staff Writers
Grayson Harmon '22
Lucio Chavez '22
Jeffery Hunsaker '23
Drake Kalinowski '23
Alex Rubino '23
Daniel Marsden '23
Adam Brazil '24
Connor Costa '24
Elian Toapanta-Sanchez '24
Richard Jones '25
Connor Kitson '25
Thaddeus Cobb '25

Guest Writers
Benjamin Olson '22
Gaither Comeau '24

We accept submissions in the form of letters or guest columns. Brevity is encouraged. Interested writers, cartoonists, and photographers can send us an e-mail at newspaper@hsc.edu.

Faculty Advisor
Dr. James Frusetta

Request a subscription!

By Mail:

Tiger Subscriptions
Brown Student Center,
Box 1017
Hampden-Sydney, VA
23943

Or Online:

<http://www.hsc.edu/News/Communications/Request-Forms/Tiger-Subscriptions.html>

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger is a student newspaper serving the community of Hampden-Sydney and operating independently of the College. The Tiger is printed biweekly by The Farmville Herald.

The views expressed in the Hampden-Sydney Tiger are those of their authors and do not reflect the official stance of The Tiger.

Continue reading on page 5

Admissions, cont’d

two more Admitted Students Days, one in March and another in April. 58 students are already registered to attend the day in March, with 29 of those yet undecided about college. The day in April has been added “by popular demand” and is expected to be of a similar size. “Guys are gravitating to us with the Hampden-Sydney mindset. It’s not just a look anymore; it’s what guys think and feel... I’ve been really encouraged by the way this community has rallied around our efforts,” Ferguson said.

In addition to normal Admitted Students Days, Admissions has been hosting a group of students for scholarship competitions. Through the Top Scholars Program, which determines who is awarded the full-ride Madison Scholarship, thirty prospective students have attended over four separate events. There will be two more of these events in March. The College has also been targeting STEM students with a new scholarship, the Hertz Schol-

arship, and Pauley Science Center.

In terms of Garnet and Gray, the program is back in a new form. The program is now being headed up by Connor Rund '13 and Emily Gantt. While the days of a coat-and-tie-toting Sydney student giving tours are gone, Admissions is still committed to using students to sell the College. In the words of Ferguson, “It doesn’t matter what I say or what this office says. You guys are the best salesman.” Admissions is trying to be more mindful of student’s time, and they are trying to take a more representative sample of students from campus with varying interests and home states. The reason for the change is to be nimble in matching prospective students to current students. For those interested in participating in Garnet and Gray, there will be an interest meeting later in the Spring. In the meantime, reach out to Jason Ferguson (Ferg) at jferguson@hsc.edu if you are interested in helping.

Card-Swiping at the Groves, cont’d

Christmas break. Giles explained, “we had one shot to get in; so, we had those done over break. We’re still waiting on some parts to get them fully up and running. This shouldn’t be too much longer. So, I don’t know if we’ll start those up before the end of this semester or just start next semester with actually having operations. That’s why we left the regular cores in them, so the keys still work.”

Miller added, “with COVID and contractors, it’s just a different world. We have supply delays and then labor delays, so when a contractor has something drop and we can get them to come in, we really didn’t think it was going to be an issue until we started hearing complaints.” When asked about the autolocking mechanism, Giles stated the feature is “standard as far as the lock compa-

ny tells me.” Miller emphasized that “there’s no automatic closure of the doors, so you can just leave it open.” Student’s don’t seem to agree, as evidenced by the increased number of calls for RAs to unlock interior doors.

When asked about why Facilities didn’t communicate any of the information with the residents who would be affected by the changes, Giles simply stated, “it was considered . . . the

old system was just dropping people randomly, so we had to do something.” Miller went on to stress the importance of communication between residents and Facilities. Without communication from Facilities and growing suspicion on the part of the students, the useless black boxes serve as a reminder, for some a daily reminder, of the effects of decision making without student input.

LIFE

THE FOLLIES OF PRESCRIPTIVISM AND THE DEMISE OF LINGUISTIC HEGEMONY (SATIRE)

MICHAEL VAN CITTERS '22
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The attempt to dictate the structure and confines of language, a phenomenon so dynamic and fluid that one cannot help but compare it to the swift flow of a raging river, has proven itself to be a disastrous instrument of oppression and abuse, and it is against this pernicious show of grammatical arrogance that I today raise my sword-pen. I contend that the criminal policy of the grammarians in power has for too long hegemonized our language and here do indict as the culprit the legacy of linguistic prescriptivism, a view stipulating that the rules and standards of grammar are to be dictated by linguistic experts and not determined through careful analysis of how words and sentences are actually put together. Heraclitus is said to have remarked that one cannot step in the same river twice, shrewdly observing that the rapid movement of the water downstream seems at every passing moment to reconstitute the riv-

er, to render its identity null and fashion from its remains a new river, ever so slightly different, ever so slightly developed. The nature of the river is to change and to change constantly. And so it goes with language. Upon the utterance of a single word, a shift in the meaning of that word is brought about immediately. My own use of the term is catalogued automatically in the vast library of usage, and on its index, I am credited as a contributor to the volumes of the English language. That is, the use of the word is contributed to by my use of it. As well, in the half-second or more that it takes for me to vocalize a word like sia-loquent for example millions of speakers around the globe use the same word and it is changed thereby. When people speak they dont need inflated "experts" to tell them how to use words. Descriptivism, that is, wresting the authority of usage from the hands of arrogant grammarians and placing it into hands of the people. Whence it becomes manifest,

the folls of the prescriptivist mindest. Hence the wide open stance I now take before you. It is clear, the prescriptivist viewpoint is unnecessary. They are also harmful. Because authority does not comes from these people. The significance of words come from we who the words affect. In the pandemic, people understand disease, there is lots of understanding about disease. It is like a disease. However like, disease, it can hides. Too, you may ben wondering why I am writing this, which is I feel concern for nature of language and misunderstanding how. Some people say there has to be rule's, which, I don't think so. However, this is not true. History repeat's itself, that is mistake we cannot afford to make. "All roads lead to Rome," says. Pages 5—6. You can see One might object, they cant image why theres rules. But what!? Like the scotish philosopher John Hume said, "spontaneous infusions of social organization (page 56)"4. However, one might say"ha! No, I don't think so. However, I think this is

wrong. When you think about it . I think you should think about it more then it will make since. However no-we are not possible for the unity of society and together but not yes until then. But without ?Clarity falling, falling from skye like rane pores. Signifire of cymbal type when before clear. . End of article. No meaning. Conservation, too. Lots more, Daddy-O, just watch me bounce, tee-hee. Second; Stand under mee, sweet-heart. Eat your fathers, bury your fathers, letem doas they-please. Leave Britney alone! Leave her alone! Not, with, us, against, us. IATPOTT. And our principle; is to not let language be tried in the peoples Court. Lingua franca deletus est! Tra-la-la, one day, me dar-lings. Piss' onn the grave's uf the longded prescrippies. 'Ll bee the dai. Holladay. Holly and apostilic chirch of Wittgensteinianism. Lock 'er up, for she lochs you up. Henceforth beet none hear. Were cummin' far ye! Cummin'! The.

WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT JOURNALISM

Your friendly neighborhood review of Sam Raimi's *Spiderman*

DANIEL NIVENS '24
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

To those of you who know me, you probably know that I am quite terrible at watching movies. Chances are if you ever ask me "Have you seen this movie?", the answer is no. So, in an effort to make myself watch some movies, I am writing this column. In every issue of *The Tiger*, I will be writing a non-spoiler re-

view of an old movie that I had never seen. These movies could be a decade old; they could be five decades old. The moral of the story is that spoiler alerts never spoil. What I am about to say may be anathema to some people, particularly any fan of Marvel: I have never seen the Raimi *Spiderman* trilogy starring Toby Macguire. That is, I'd never seen the Raimi trilogy until this review. This

week, as you might as guessed, I took a look at everyone's web-swinging, friendly, neighborhood *Spiderman* (2002). I will start this out by saying that Tom Holland is my favorite Spiderman. I subscribe to the theory that Macguire played the best Peter Parker, Andrew Garfield played the best Spiderman, and Tom Holland is the best-of-both-worlds. That being said, I

enjoyed this movie. There are portions that are difficult to watch; if you're like me and have a very acute sense of secondhand embarrassment, this probably won't be your favorite. Macguire is painfully awkward (on purpose) at several points during the movie, and it never becomes easier to watch. The early 2000s animation has also not aged well. This movie could have seriously benefited from more

practical effects rather than animated "cut-scenes." Simply put, they don't fit well. They're passable to tell the story, but they completely break the immersion. However, this movie came before the revolution in superhero movies that was *Iron Man*, so don't be disappointed that it doesn't fit the more modern Marvel formula. With those caveats aside, this movie has a lot of bright spots. Toby Macguire is endearing, and for many, a childhood icon. I really enjoy his acting style, and I think he

makes a great Spiderman. The more elderly Aunt May and Uncle Ben formula also works great, and I prefer it greatly to the young, beautiful aunt of the Holland series. I would be remiss to not mention Willem Defoe, whose portrayal of Green Goblin is truly iconic. The voice is beyond the pale and truly disturbing. I cannot stress enough how good Defoe's performance is in this movie. Taking into account the aging of the movie, Sam Raimi's *Spiderman* earns a solid 68%.

Cartoon

SAMUEL ROBELEN '23
CARTOONIST



IN MEMORIAM

ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE:
REMEMBERING SPENCER PARRISH



Photo courtesy of Benjamin Olsen '22

BENJAMIN OLSEN '22
GUEST WRITER

Spencer's story is not for one person to tell. He meant many things to many people, but at his core, he was a loving, loyal, and humble friend. He always took life's many challenges with a smile, a shrug, and his favorite phrase, "another day in paradise." This article contains stories of Spencer collected from those who knew him.

When he came to Hampden-Sydney's campus in the fall of 2017, he fell in love with rugby. He became a formidable player on the team able to out tackle, ruck, and scrum any teammate or opponent. When he was a Junior he would assume the role of captain and lead the team to its best season ever, placing 8th in the nation. He continued to be a captain during his senior year and once he graduated he took on the mantle of coach. Many of us have stories from his playing days, one of the most memorable being his red card. In 2018 during a heated game at home, Spence drove headfirst into a ruck and dispersed the defenders with zeal, leaving 2 of them in the dirt. The referee immediately stopped play, reached into his pocket, and pulled out his red card. Spencer, when diving into the ruck, had accidentally flipped one of the defenders over on his head. While the opposing team was outraged, we all knew that Spence never would have done that on purpose, and it was his superhuman strength and form that had sent the player flying.

His coaching days bring out another slew of stories; Victoria Fenton '23 recalls that when she would

come to practice to support the team (and sometimes bring the ever-welcome orange slices) he would take time to genuinely talk about how each of them was doing. When they were done, without fail, Victoria would ask him to put her in the game. I'm sure he probably smiled each time and gave it some serious thought. It wasn't just in his coaching days that this caring and nurturing manifested itself; a year earlier he met Becton Topping '24.

Becton recalls that meeting saying, "The first time that I met Spence was at the Rugby house. I was quiet and unsure of what was going to happen. I was around a group of guys I had never met before, and I felt super uncomfortable. Spencer just pulled me aside and started talking to me.



Photo courtesy of Benjamin Olsen '22

We found out that we had a lot in common and ended up speaking until like 3 a.m. That solidified my choice of school as well as being on the Rugby team."

While Spencer was a teenager, he worked for B&G, painting, repairing, and beautifying the campus we know today. When he was a sophomore, Spencer was the RA in Venable's basement. Instead of looking at the same cream-colored walls for the whole year, he decid-

ed to paint his room. Since he worked for B&G over the summer and had access to all the paint, he painted his room with red above the chair rail and grey below. Unbeknownst to him, he painted the room on the wrong side of the hallway. Instead of repainting or leaving it how it was, he decided to remove every single plaque on the hall and flipped the hallway. It wasn't noticeable until you looked at the fire escape map and saw

Photo courtesy of Benjamin Olsen '22



that you were in the wrong room. When I asked him about it, he shrugged and said he'd fix it over the summer, and sure enough, the next year the room was back to its proper number and the same boring off-white.

As I was talking to one of his sisters about this article, she mentioned a trip they recently

took to Maine. She says, "One of my favorite memories of my little brother is from the camping trip we took to Maine. He has always been such a grown-up, helping and supporting everyone around him. On this trip, he was a kid again. The rocky oceanfront terrain was exciting to him. He climbed all over those rocks, scaring me to death, but he was having a blast. I took so many pictures of him just loving the adven-

ture. He would sit on the rocks for hours just watching the ocean, so at peace, and completely himself." He was a true adventurer at heart. Once, Spencer was asked by Doug Mendoza '21 to provide the ROTC an opposition force (OPFOR) for a training exercise. Spencer obviously agreed, and while most would have just shown up and given it a college try, Spencer wasn't most. He invited the reenacting club

and members of the Rugby club to participate in this OPFOR. He then went out to survey the battlefield and build a map and briefing for his squad. A map and a plan weren't enough for him; for the next month, he took the lead on digging a slit trench deep in the woods to provide the defensive positions required for the operation. The trench still exists out there somewhere, with its hasty wooden floor and two fox holes built to the side.

Spencer also had a passion for bluegrass, and he had been trying since I met him in 2018 to get a group of guys together to play. Finally, when he was a senior he managed to wrangle a group of students, faculty, and staff to play along with him. This was paired with his endless request that either I or Bryce "Tonk" Hare '23 would learn the mandolin. I tried to learn but was barely able to pick out a song. Meanwhile, Tonk took to the mandolin and con-

tinues to practice the bluegrass and Irish songs that we loved to listen to and sing along with. Benjamin Hager '23 recalls about the bluegrass group, "I was only able to attend one jam session, but it was a great time. It was just me, Spencer, and Bryce Hare '23. I'm a mediocre guitarist player and singer at best, and Bryce was still learning to play the mandolin, but Spencer was an adept guitarist and passionate singer. In spite of there being only three of us, I think we all had a great time."

Benjamin further recalls his interactions with Spencer, saying "Whenever I was on shift at OSA (Office of Student Affairs), Spencer would come out of his office or I'd go into it and we'd talk music. I remember one of the first times I met him, I asked him how he was doing and he said "just another day in paradise." That really spoke to me, because my dad's response to that same question was always "living the dream." I think it reflected Spencer's attitude of making

furniture. In spite of this, when he left the room, Jason and I decided to give it a go. When Spencer returned, he found me under the desk trying to remove screws while Jason looked around like "hey, this was his idea." In response, Spencer said something like "alright, screw it," and he jumped in to help. We spent an inordinate amount of time trying to move that massive desk (with much frustration), but eventually, it fell into place. That's probably my favorite memory with Spencer. Chairs and lamps and other furniture were spilling out into the rest of OSA for over an hour while we moved that desk, but we kept at it until it was finished. That's a story Jason and I will be laughing about for years I'm sure."

Spencer was a teammate, a friend, and always had a deep passion for life. It was astounding to me how many people reached out to share their support for the Rugby team or his family. He was a man of exceptional character and I think that his



Photo courtesy of Benjamin Olsen '22

the most of each day, and I try to emulate that. I remember one time Jason Hill '22 and I were in Spencer's office, and Spencer was talking about rearranging the furniture in there. Notably, Spencer had a U-shaped desk attached to a bookshelf that spanned nearly the entire length of one wall of the room, so he was clearly joking about moving the

passing highlighted just how many lives he touched and how richer we all are for having him in our lives. In a quote that I think sums up Spence perfectly, Brennan Vaught '21 said, "not only was Spencer a great teammate and friend but he was a model. A model for leadership, dedication, and what a Hampden-Sydney man should be."



Photo courtesy of Benjamin Olsen '22

SPORTS

INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL REBOUNDS

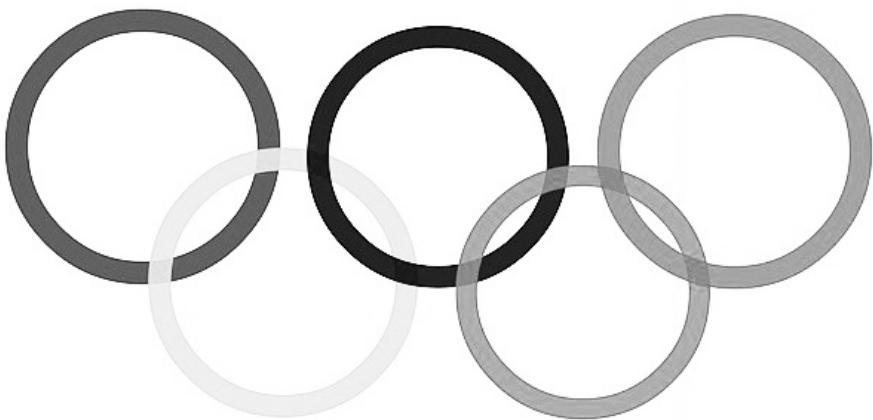
CONNOR KITSON '25
STAFF WRITER

As the second semester begins to get into full swing, many students look for an escape from classes. A popular extracurricular student’s have shown interest in Intramural basketball. Junior David Byler reflects on what IM basketball means to him. “I will say IM sports are absolutely essential on this campus because they inspire competition. Everywhere you go whether it’s class, moans, or your dorm room kids are constantly talking about matchups and what their teams are going to do to each other when they play and how many points they are going to drop” said Byler. “Most of these kids talking smack can’t back it up because they aren’t great basketball players but nonetheless it creates this fantastic environ-

ment where people look forward to these games every week.” IM Basketball is designed to incorporate any member of the student body interested in playing the sport. Sophomore Stefan Ngoh shares his and his team’s experience. “I’m team captain of the Swish Kebobs. Our season isn’t going too hot right now, especially considering we’re 0-3. But with only 6 players total, we’re not expecting to go 20 ball every team we play ” said Ngoh. Although the sport is recreational, some games can get tense due to friendly competition. “My personal experience with IM basketball has been very positive. I get to go out and dominate kids mentally and physically twice a week for a month. I play for TAC and we haven’t lost and don’t plan to. Our team goals are to win the whole thing” said Byler. Students look for-

ward to their weekly basketball game as an opportunity to connect with peers. “Personally IM has gone well. Always look forward to those one to two nights a week where I can go play basketball with my friends in a competitive environment” said Ngoh. Byler is confident about the outcome of his team’s season. Only time will tell who this year’s IM champion will be. “Sure it gets chippy but that’s all a part of the game. You see the kid the next day and you give him that look like ‘yeah remember last night’” said Byler. “I absolutely love it, and the thing about it is that some kids go out there with their fraternities or club or whatever and play around for fun, but we are out there to win and not just dominate you but break your will. You play for that t-shirt that says IM champion.

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



WINTER OLYMPICS RINGS TO A CLOSE: A REVIEW OF BEIJING 2022

GAITHER COMEAU '24
GUEST WRITER

February 20th marked the date for the closing ceremony of the 2022 Winter Olympics. After the last Winter Olympics Games were canceled due to COVID 19, this year’s games were filled with excitement and payoff. The location for this year’s Winter Olympics was given to Beijing, who has not hosted the Olympics since 2008 when the city hosted the summer Olympics. Some controversy surrounded the location of the games with many people pointing out China’s history regarding human rights as well as the Chinese government attempting to use the event to distract individuals from these issues.

However, the games were not moved nor did the controversy end. Perhaps the largest issue during the Olympics was with fifteen-year-old Russian figure skater Kamila Valie-

va, who competed in women’s singles for figure skating. Despite finishing fourth in the competition, there was heated controversy surrounding the skater due to her testing positive for a banned drug in December. On top of that discovery, it was revealed that the information was not released until after she helped win gold for the Russian Olympic Committee in the team event. This is not the first time Russia has been involved with a failed drug test for one of their athletes and the investigation is still being looked into. Moving on to a more wholesome story, Shaun White, legendary snowboarder, finished fourth on the halfpipe in what would be his final Olympics. White has participated in five Winter Olympics and after his final run he reflected on his past as an Olympian saying, “Every step of the way has been great...I’m not looking at it from today, I’m looking at it as a

whole.” White holds the record as the only person to hold three gold medals in the snowboarding half-pipe and has cemented his legacy as one of the greatest snowboarders of all time. The final ceremony saw all teams tallying up their medal counts with Norway finishing first in total medals while breaking the record for most Olympic gold medals with a grand total of sixteen. Following Norway’s 39 medals was The Russian Olympic Committee who brought home 32 medals; Germany with 27; Canada winning 26; and the USA coming in fifth in total medals won with 25. In terms of the medal’s rankings Norway finished first, Germany second, China third, USA fourth, and Sweden fifth. If these Olympics were any indication of what is to come in the upcoming 2024 Paris Summer Olympics, there should be a great amount of build-up and anticipation.

Dean Bowyer, cont’d

picked up the trash so it looked presentable when people walked around. This was a good idea in concept, but these cleanups were exclusively early morning activities, difficult to put together after a long night. It also felt like houses were sharing in the cleanup and not in the mess made. I am not aware if this program is still in place, but it seemed to help during game days, when the circle was getting the largest number of visitors. Bowyer isn’t work shy though, He explains, “As a leader, you shouldn’t expect somebody to do something that you wouldn’t do yourself, that you wouldn’t go down there and roll your sleeves up and do it with me. That was my justification for [the circle cleanup] to put this together with a minimal amount of volunteers, and I’ll be right there with ya, to go pick [trash] up by 9 on Saturday morning, by 10 on Sunday morning so the circle is respectful, presentable.” We also talked about having more circle wide events in the grassy area. The oyster and Cajun boil was a fantastic event for recruitment and it was great to see different houses get together and use the

area in a way that conveys ownership. It also helps guys be more aware of the damage they’re doing to this common area. We both agreed that it would be nice to use this space for future activities but it would have to be clean to use the space safely. Some of the changes he has brought already to the Greek life process are evident. Potential new members are required to attend weekly sessions, in which the new members get to learn a little bit about Bowyer and how to use him as a resource for any questions they have. They were also connected with the career center. They were told how to use the office to help them explore job opportunities. This is an important message for freshmen who may not know how to use the career center yet. We also see that the hours for potential new members have changed, moving the three hours allocated to education to earlier in the night, splitting up the study block that (most) members remember fondly as a good time to get homework done and learn something new. It seems that the process of new member education has been significant-

ly affected this year. While the different fraternities deal with the short 4-week process in different ways, we can all agree that this is an intense, fast paced process compared to the much longer processes at different schools. It is not uncommon at state schools to have potential new members for up to a semester, or even an entire year. Yes, it is important to make sure that potential new members are safe, but it seems like with the recent new changes, they now have a shorter study block, less time to learn knowledge and meet brothers with new additional meetings. As I have already stated, it is clear that these meetings do have good purpose and potential new members are being educated on how to reach out to faculty, career services and gain educational knowledge to protect themselves from unsafe treatment. I am concerned that these new practices may change the amount of time potential new members get to study for exams, do their homework, or get to know their pledge brothers. Maybe some of us older students just remem-

ber the past through rose colored glasses. In truth, I believe that Bowyer has student’s best interests at heart. Perhaps these changes are a test run, seeing what works, what doesn’t. The only way to make something better is to try something new. We will see what the future holds for new member education, but we all hope that it brings positive growth to the houses we love dearly on the circle. Finally, he talked about recruitment for Greek life, and the new challenges that come with the process. “I think recruiting will be...there may-be a little bit of a shift in the mindset of younger students as they get to college and may not be as interested but we got to make it appealing to him. We’ve got

to help them understand the value of being a fraternity man and Hampden-Sydney College and what you can get out of it instead of just focus on the social aspect of it. There’s so much more and that’s the other thing I wanted to kind of look at it is there’s to philanthropy and community service, there’s the education building of that Brotherhood” This is certainly a promising statement of commitment to Greek life growth and a level of commitment to growing the percentage of members who call somewhere on the circle home. Philanthropy, community and education are certainly pillars of Greek life that are under-appreciated, so it is great to hear that someone is directly invested in their growth.

So what’s the big take away? ‘Man comes to college to do a job, interested in the things his job title covers.’ Of course not. There were over 5 pages when I originally transcribed our interview. He is passionate about showing guys how to succeed, he wants to share in our ups and down, he wants to be a resource for us students. To understand all the things that didn’t go into this paper, it might really help to go meet him yourself. Bowyer has much more to his character than I can put into this section. I’ve outlined the most important details as I see them, but there’s much more that he’s interested in sharing one on one with any current student who wants to ask. His contact information is at the top of the article.

THE BACK PAGE

CHRISTIAN’S CORNER: BE DEVOTED

DAVID CREGO ‘23
COPY EDITOR

Brothers and Sisters of Hampden-Sydney, spring starts soon, but we are already experiencing the perfect weather that comes along with the season. It is no wonder why we take delight in the natural beauty of this world, for all of God’s creations are beautiful.

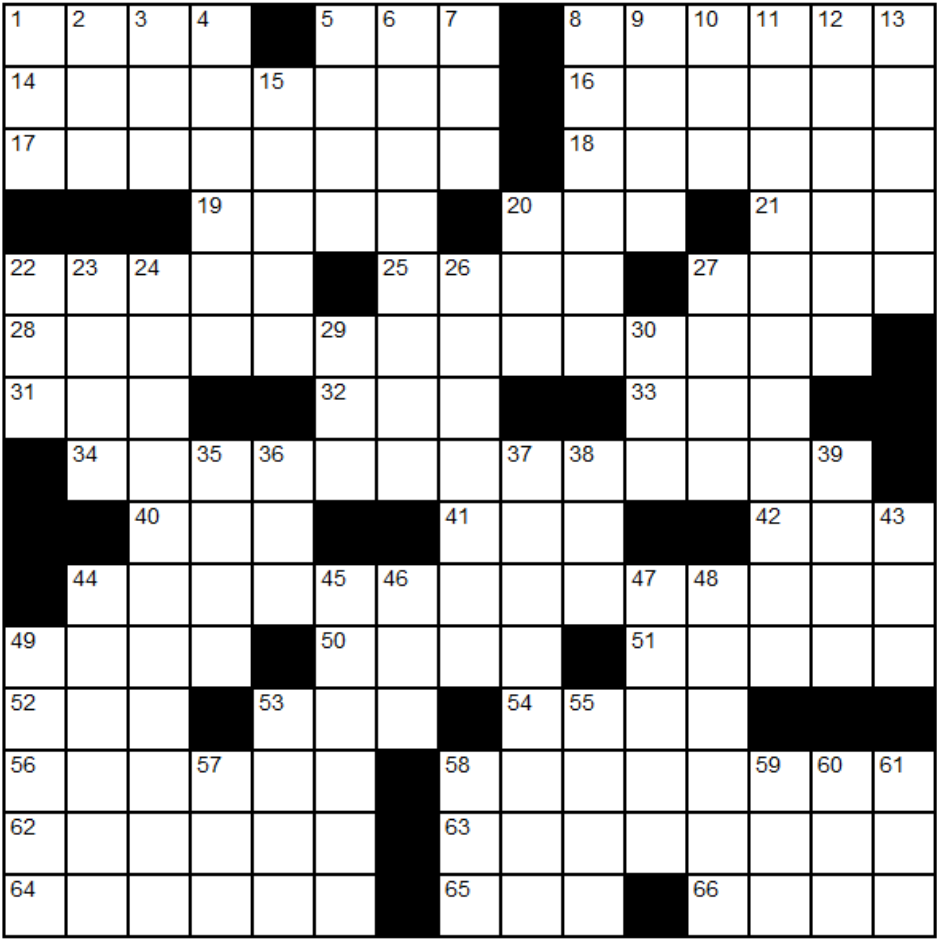
I hope that the semester goes well for you, dear reader. Dedication to your studies is important (it is after all the reason all of us are here), but what we learn is utterly insignificant if we discount the teachings of Christ and his Gospels. What we enjoy here at college might be good but everything in moderation. We do not want to be like the souls in Dante’s *Purgatoria*, who, having been distracted by a wonderful hymn, forget the glory of God’s kingdom right before them. Let us look towards the Apostles for inspiration: So [the Sadducees] called [Peter and John] and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot

but speak of what we have seen and heard.” Acts 4:18–20
Throughout the course of our lives, we find ourselves in situations where talking about our faith is uncomfortable or impractical, but the good news that Christians know must be shared, for as Peter and John said simply, we have no other recourse but to talk about our witness to Christ’s sacrifice.

I said in the previous entry of the “Christian’s Corner” that we must keep love at the center of our judgements, thus it is with our studies and interactions. Love has the divine ability to multiply when it is shared. We have reservations about sharing because each additional person reduces the amount that each person receives, but it is not the case with love: “That Good, ineffable and infinite, / which is above, directs Itself toward love / as light directs Itself to polished bodies. / Where ardor is, that Good gives of Itself; / and where more love is, there that Good confers / a greater measure of eternal worth. / And when there are more souls above who love more, / there’s more to love well there, and they love more, / and, mirror-like, each soul reflects the other” *Purga-*

torio, XV:67–75. Love begets love. In college, it is especially easy to neglect your spiritual life. We find ourselves, for the first time, with great power over the decisions of our lives. The temptation towards licentious and imprudent behavior abounds, but “A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls” (Proverbs 25:28). Let us not disregard our faith nor treat it like a trinket to flaunt our own mistaken moral superiority. We must properly order our lives around God, for any other foundation will be “built . . . upon [sand]” (Matthew 7:26). If we recognize that “man [does] not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God,” then we can truly say that we have wisdom (Matthew 4:4). After all, isn’t the purpose of our being at Hampden-Sydney to make us wise?

Alas, that is but my humble interpretation. Each person is called into a relationship with Christ, and each person is unique. If you have any questions or quarrels with whatever I have said, please, do not hesitate to email me, David Crego, at Cregod23@hsc.edu. God Bless!



CROSSWORD

JOHN TORIAN ‘23
CRUCIVERBALIST

Across

- 1. Ceremonial splendor
- 5. Spooky mon.
- 8. Van Halen hit
- 14. Musical intro
- 16. Amorphous microbes
- 17. New Jersey City
- 18. Bird hangouts
- 19. Often accompanies giggles
- 20. Inquire
- 21. Silk noose
- 22. Butcher’s Leftovers
- 25. Eye acne
- 27. Victories
- 28. Taking another glance

- 31. “To ___ is human.”
- 32. Regret
- 33. Scrounge up
- 34. A big let down
- 40. The loneliest number
- 41. Place of relaxation
- 42. Tin vessel
- 44. Proven by numbers
- 49. The brink
- 50. Modern computer architecture
- 51. Inverse sin
- 52. Charged atom
- 53. Hawaiian necklace
- 54. Full of malice
- 56. Intervene
- 58. Cooperative
- 62. Deposited
- 63. Nail-biter’s pain
- 64. Turn to bone
- 65. Insect trooper
- 66. Long walk

Down

- 1. Bubble’s fate
- 2. Eggs
- 3. Phillie art museum
- 4. Readymade house
- 5. Expose
- 6. Move across
- 7. High rating number
- 8. Astronomer’s measure
- 9. Berserk
- 10. Novel prefix
- 11. Ascetic’s ways

- 12. Knowing (in the Biblical sense)
- 13. Beasts of burden
- 15. Two-note tone
- 20. Pirate’s affirmation
- 22. Homage
- 23. Cross a river
- 24. Rage
- 26. True believers
- 27. Internet encyclopedia
- 29. A time gone by
- 30. Computer input
- 35. Lose it
- 36. Legislator, briefly
- 37. Little green man
- 38. Meat trimming
- 39. Swift wind
- 43. Empire city
- 44. Bare minimums
- 45. Fashion forward
- 46. 3, to Iulius
- 47. Cake decoration
- 48. Wings spread
- 49. Silicon valley company
- 53. Famous viking
- 55. Emotional release
- 57. Golden ratio
- 58. “Take On Me” artist
- 59. Lawyer’s association
- 60. Untruth
- 61. Big game

H-SC SLUDGE REPORT

From the desk of the Sludge Provost pro Tempore

Noah Moore Elected Student Court Chairman. Expected to Gain 300 Pounds in Coming Weeks.

Skippy the Squirrel Announces Campaign for Student Body President, Advocates that “It is better to live one day as a squirrel than 100 years as a nut!”

Facilities Responds to Student Complaints by Locking Complaint Department.

Compass Program Lacking a Sense of Direction.

Dr. Frusetta to Take Emergency Sabbatical Given Recent Events in Eastern Europe—His Expertise is Needed in Moscow.

Rhetoric Studio Officials Torn Between Correcting Last Name Pronunciation or Upholding Social Justice.

Hampden-Sydney Theater to Perform Aliens. Modern Languages Department Voices Concerns; Astronomy Department Intrigued.

Government Professors Talk to History Professors.

Student Body President Debate Agrees that Someone Else Should Do Lost and Found.

Lack of Scam Emails in Recent Times. Be Wary!

Errata(um)

Benjamin Olsen’s name was incorrectly spelled “Olson” on page 1 of the last issue of *The Tiger*.